

S 1630

Affordable Access to Prescription Medications Act of 2009

Congress: 111 (2009–2011, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Health

Introduced: Aug 6, 2009

Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance. (text of measure as introduced: CR S9027-9029)

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance. (text of measure as introduced: CR S9027-9029)
(Aug 6, 2009)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/111th-congress/senate-bill/1630>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Rockefeller, John D., IV [D-WV]

Party: Democratic • **State:** WV • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors (2 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Franken, Al [D-MN]	D · MN		Aug 6, 2009
Sen. Begich, Mark [D-AK]	D · AK		Oct 14, 2009

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Finance Committee	Senate	Referred To	Aug 6, 2009

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Health

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
111 HR 3799	Identical bill	Nov 16, 2009: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health, Employment, Labor, and Pensions.

Affordable Access to Prescription Medications Act of 2009 - Amends title XVIII (Medicare) of the Social Security Act, the Public Health Service Act, the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA), and the Internal Revenue Code, with respect to prescription drug plans, to limit the required co-payment or coinsurance for any one prescription to \$200, and for all prescriptions in any month to \$500.

Requires the Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS), for plan years beginning on or after January 1, 2011, to expand the formulary tier exception request process to allow Medicare beneficiaries enrolled in a prescription drug plan to request an exception for a specialty prescription drug as a non-preferred prescription drug.

Requires the Medicare Payment Advisory Commission to study and report to Congress on: (1) the prescription drug program under Medicare part D and the interaction of such program with Medicare beneficiary access to covered drugs under part B; and (2) cost-sharing for prescription drugs under Medicare parts B and D, including an analysis of the impact of eliminating cost-sharing for covered part D drugs for Medicare beneficiaries who incur annual out-of-pocket cost-sharing, after the initial coverage limit, that exceeds 5% of their income and who do not otherwise qualify for an income-related subsidy or other extra help or cost-sharing relief.

Actions Timeline

- **Aug 6, 2009:** Introduced in Senate
- **Aug 6, 2009:** Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR S9027)
- **Aug 6, 2009:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance. (text of measure as introduced: CR S9027-9029)

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